

MEMORANDUM TO: The Chairman,
Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee
on Cuban Affairs

FROM: Subcommittee on Cuban Subversion *W-18*

SUBJECT: Status Report on Assigned Contingency Papers

The Subcommittee was assigned the preparation of contingency plans to counter the following possible actions by Castro:

- a) Sabotage of U.S. commercial or industrial installations in Latin America, including ships and aircraft.
- b) Isolated/or coordinated demonstrations or attacks on U.S. Government property.
- c) Attempts at kidnapping or assassination of American officials and/or citizens.
- d) Intensified subversion against Latin American governments.

After carefully considering this problem, the Subcommittee has concluded that these particular lines of attack by Castro do not readily lend themselves to the usual contingency planning providing for a direct United States response to Cuban actions. Because the basic protection against attacks occurring within the jurisdiction of another country must be provided by the police and security forces of that country, the United States has little choice but to depend upon these safeguards. Under these circumstances the most practical counter-action open to the United States is: (1) the continued strengthening of the internal security capabilities of the Latin American countries to deal with these situations, and (2) the alerting of our diplomatic missions and American communities in Latin America in order that they may up-date, in conjunction with local security agencies, plans for defending themselves against sabotage and terrorism. *f*

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The Subcommittee recommends the following courses of action:

1) To continue, and increase as necessary, current programs to improve the internal security capabilities of the Latin American countries.

2) To send the attached circular message to all Latin American posts to alert them to the likelihood of a step-up in Castro-incited subversion and violence and ask them to review and revise their E & E plans accordingly. (The Subcommittee will cooperate with the Washington Liaison Office in a program to update and improve the effectiveness of the E & E plans).

3) To supply, as a follow-up to recommendation No. 2, information and guidance for our posts on how to meet the dangers of sabotage and terrorism based on programs developed by government agencies and private companies overseas.

4) To continue urging the governments of Latin America, particularly Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru, which intelligence reports indicate as likely targets, to increase their vigilance to the growing possibility of Cuban subversive activity, making known our willingness to cooperate with them. A separate circular message on this aspect will be prepared.

5) To continue to urge the Latin American governments to report to the OAS Castro-Communist subversion in the area in order to develop a hemisphere-wide reaction against any major campaign of violence by Castro and to lay the basis for possible further collective action against Cuba.

Attachment:

Draft airgram to ARA posts.

ARA/CCA:JJMullen:dr 11/12/63

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